

March 28, 2022

Members of the Public Health Committee,

I am **OPPOSED** to **Section 7, Lines 229 – 339 of SB No. 477** (LCO No. 3789) AN ACT CONCERNING THE PUBLIC HEALTH OF RESIDENTS OF THE STATE.

- I oppose Section 7 (Lines 229 – 339) of this bill as it has nothing to do with Dementia, Alzheimer's Disease, or perinatal and postpartum mental health disorders.
- Section 7 is nearsighted as it seeks to create a whole new arm of government that focuses narrowly on violence with a specific heavily regulated item, and ignores the majority of violence with other items more readily available in households and public. It ignores the roots of all violence.
- The taxpayer funding needed to hire an executive director and two executive assistants (Sec 7(h) lines 307 – 316), and reimburse members of the commission for expenses incurred (Sec 7(g) lines 303-306), would be better spent, now, on existing violence prevention programs that we know already work.
- Section 7 is merely a scheme to hide an anti-gun agenda platform into a Public Health bill at the taxpayers expense.

I urge you to **OPPOSE** SB No. 477 until such time that Section 7 (Lines 229 – 339) is stricken from the bill.

Sincerely,

Roy D. Downey  
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Senate District 33  
House District 36